

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:338
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2005
ANNUAL ECONOMIC GROWTH RATE
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the annual economic growth target;
- (b) whether the Government has an action plan to boost agricultural growth to push up GDP growth;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the extent to which the plan will help in pushing the agricultural growth to over 4% to achieve the GDP growth?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 338 REGARDING ANNUAL ECONOMIC GROWTH RATE BY SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI, DUE FOR ANSWER ON 17-08-2005

(a): The measures proposed to improve the growth target in the economy are detailed in the Mid-Term Appraisal of the Tenth Plan (2002-2007), which has been placed in the Parliament library. Some of these include raising public investment in different sectors particularly in agriculture, infrastructure, viz. power, roads, greater focus on health and education, improving governance, etc.

(b) & (c): The steps proposed in the Mid -Term Appraisal of the Tenth Five Year Plan to boost agricultural growth include raising public investment in irrigation and water resources management; watershed development and reclamation of waste/degraded land; provision of water entitlements for implementing decentralized irrigation system, micro irrigation with appropriate technical inputs, rejuvenate support systems like extension, credit, accelerate agricultural processing and marketing. The Government has also increased the outlay for agriculture and allied sectors substantially during the years 2004-05 and 2005-06.

(d): According to the Mid-Term Appraisal agreed to by the National Development Council the likely growth rate of the Agriculture sector is 2.2 percent during the Tenth Five Year Plan period as against the target of 4 per cent. Longer term projections are not available.